I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filling system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: 18 April 2008 Electronic Signature for Diane Bergin: /Diane Bergin/ Docket No.: GEML 4671-3US

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Hindrik F. Bulthuis et al.

Application No.: 10/536,570 Confirmation No.: 9934

Filed: March 30, 2006 Art Unit: 2874

For: OPTICAL BRANCHING COMPONENT WITH Examiner: D. J. Petkovsek LOW POLARISATION SENSITIVITY AND

INCREASED PROCESS TOLERANCE

RESPONSE A

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Response A is in reply to the Office Action mailed December 17, 2007. Payment for an appropriate Extension of Time is submitted herewith.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

REMARKS begin on page 6 of this paper.